

Work Task C5:	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Prey Base Study
Point of Contact:	John Swett, LC-2320 (702) 293-8574
Purpose:	Investigate Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (SWFL) diet by acquiring fecal samples and sampling insects within occupied SWFL breeding sites.
Conservation Measures:	MRM1 and MRM2
Long-term Goal:	Information obtained from this study will be used to help plan riparian habitat restoration projects and may be used to evaluate habitat quality.
FY05 Estimate:	SWFL prey availability report will be completed in FY05. Further studies will be implemented to determine potential differences in prey species and abundance between occupied and unoccupied habitat. FY05 costs are estimated at \$65,000 including field support and quality assessment.
Project Description:	Life history studies have shown that abiotic conditions within SWFL habitat may influence habitat selection, especially the presence of standing water or saturated soils. Other biotic components, such as insect distribution and abundance, may also influence habitat quality. In 2004, insect and SWFL fecal samples were collected in occupied SWFL breeding habitat and sent to the University of California – Davis (UCD) for identification. These data will be used to determine prey availability within occupied SWFL breeding habitat.
Accomplishment to date:	Insect and fecal samples were obtained and delivered to UCD during the 2004 field season. UCD provided Reclamation with insect data. FY04 costs for the cooperative agreement were \$41,032.